

VII, drawn to the same methods as Group IV, but with the PSGL being the 160kD P-selectin ligand, P-selectin mimic and P-selectin ligand mimic, respectively, are also classified in Class 514, subclass 2. Accordingly, there is no perceived need to restrict these particular groups since they admittedly can all be searched coextensively. In particular, the requirement with respect to Groups IV and V is particularly onerous in view of the closely related nature of the molecules. Similarly, Groups XI and XII can both be classified in Class 424, subclass 130.

In view of the coextensive classification of many of the listed groups, the Examiner is urged to reconsider the present restriction requirement, and to reduce the number of groups to at least those groups which cannot be searched in the same class and subclass. This would save both the Patent Office and the applicants considerable time and expense, as well as reduce the workload on the Examiner due to the prosecution of numerous related inventions in separate applications.

Accordingly, the restriction requirement is respectfully traversed, and reconsideration along the lines outlined above is requested. However, in the event the restriction requirement is adhered to in its entirety, applicants respectfully elect, with traverse, the invention of the Group IV claims, i.e., wherein the PSGL is PSGL-1, for further prosecution on the merits.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the restriction requirement, and prompt and favorable action on this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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